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PATENT 450100-02887

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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icants :

Tadao YOSHIDA et al.

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Art Unit

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:
Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231, on April 16, 2001

Name of Applicant, Assignee or Registered Representative

Signature

April 16, 2001
Date of Signature

<u>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</u> <u>UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b)</u>

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.56, applicants are filing this Information Disclosure Statement and the accompanying form PTO-1449 along with copies of the prior art therein identified. Such prior art has come to the attention of applicants by being cited in a Search Report issued in the corresponding European application on March 16, 2001. So

far as applicants are aware, this Information Disclosure

Statement is being filed before the mailing date of the first

Office Action on the merits.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement is not an admission that the documents identified herein constitute prior art to the present application.

Please charge any fees incurred by the filing of this document or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

Respectfully submitted,

FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP Attorneys for Applicants

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